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Five Minutes in the Corridor.

We continue to receive letters expressing the belief or suspicion that Judge PARKER'S telegram of July 9 to Mr. SHEERAN at St. Louis was sent in accordance with a preconcerted programme; in short, that the message was a characteristic political invention of the Hon. DAVID B. HILL'S.

This idea has taken possession of numerous intelligent minds. It should be dismissed at once, for it is absolutely without foundation. If any further evidence of that fact were needed, it could be found in this very interesting statement by Colonel GEORGE HARVEY in Harper's Weekly, just out:

"As they [Mr. SHEBHAN and Mr. THOMAS F. RYANJ entered the building, a messenger of the Western Union Telegraph Company handed to Mr. SEERAN a telegram. He had already received during the morning a score or more of messages and listically opened the envelope. His attention was riveted instantly by the signature. By a giance the contents were graven upon his mind. An ejeculation brought Mr. RYAN's quick attention to his ashen face. Without a word they withdres to a corner of the wide corridor, and, with shaking hand, Mr. SHREHAM passed the telegram to his

Manualla, their hurried withdrawal from the central able had attracted attention. Before Mr. RYAN had read the signature Mr. HILL had jetned them. Not a word was said until he also had read and reread the despatch. Then Mr. Hill turned to Mr. SPEREAR and demanded that the telegram be suppressed. Judge PAREER must be saved from the effect of his own hasty act. Mr. SHERHAN Vehemently refused. Mr. HILL then insisted that it must be a fabrication-a boas-designed to create confusion and bring ridicule upon both the party and the candidate. Mr. RYAN suggested that I would be easy to determine whether or not this was so. Until the telegram was found to be genu ine or false, its contents abould not be divulged."

If this account of what happened during those five minutes in the corridor of the convention hall is true-and we have no doubt of its substantial accuracyneither Mr. SHEEHAN nor Mr. HILL had the slightest foreknowledge of any such message. It was equally a surprise to each. Their position differed only in regard to the treatment of the unexpected despatch. Mr. HILL was for suppressing it and "saving Judge PARKER from the effect of his own hasty act." Mr. SHERHAN, being of different build, and loyal as a personal friend as well as a political manager, vehemently refused. Then Mr. HILL raised the question of the authenticity of the telegram as a further obstacle to its presentation to the convention; and in this second attempt he was thwarted by Mr. RYAN'S suggestion of the natural method of to proceed to Yokohama.

Let Judge PARKER have full credit for his own decision and independent initiative in the matter of the gold telegram. Instead of lending himself to a characteristic trick of DAVID BENNETT HILL'S he | the Treaty of Paris was modified; or gave that shifty gentleman the greatest | else that, when they undertook to stop,

shock of his whole life. demand for the suppression of the telegram, instead of "saving Judge PARKER from the effect of his own hasty act"

Kind Words of an Old Friend.

Once in a while our honey-hearted London contemporary, the Saturday Review, remembers that there is a place called the United States and proceeds to 'cave 'alf a brick at it. This exercise seems to be good for the health of the Saturday Reviewers and stirs a languid joy in perhaps half a dozen American bosoms. They feel that this sporadic tribute is proof that the English bile and spleen, so dear to so many French novelists, survive unsweetened and un-

In an article on "Gods of the Machine" some god who lives at ease on his Saturday contributions says austerely that "American politics are among that class of subjects in which the English newspaper reader steadily refuses to take an interest." Whereupon the writer pours tells us that "the machine turns out the run with the least friction." We should expect him to mention Mr. CLEVELAND Mr. CLEVELAND, who has had the misfortune to be President twice. Since in America the very able man "is debarred from the chance of obtaining the highest office in the State," Mr. CLEVELAND cannot be a very able man, whereas Mr. BRYAN is "undoubtedly a far more remarkable person than Mr. ROOSEVELT and incomparably more so vilify Mr. BRYAN "in the grossest manner," but "the truth is that he held strong views on social reform and kindred matters which by no means commended themselves to the 'goldbugs' and their satellites." Thus is the infamous conspiracy against Mr. BRYAN unmasked and the real ground for the resistance | is, on the face of it, preposterous. of the goldbugs exposed. Mr. BRYAN is "a man of ideas and gifted with marvellous eloquence." He has all the virtues and all the talents, for he was not

What of the relations between the United States and Great Britain? Has Great Britain anything to hope from the

PARKER? Here, at least, the scorner of mediocrity wraps himself in no illusions:

Any one who is in the alightest degree acquainted with the President's views is well aware that all his sympathies are with the pure 'Americanismus' of the most orthodox rather than with the cosmo politan sentiment which invades certain circles both in the States and the Old World. He is also far more likely to be a consistent supporter of Monroe than any possible Democratic successor, though it would be erroneous to expect any real change in American foreign policy even if the blameless PARKER or any other Democratic nominee sits in the seat of Washington. Does any one seriously believe that a Democratic President would abandon the Philippines or decline to support the Monroe Doctrine? With the Venezuela incident in mind. when a Democratic President risked a war with Great Britain for purely electioneering purposes it is playing with facts for the Democrats to pretend that a Democratic victory would relieve the world of fear of any scandalous adventures of the same kind in future. The risks of similar appeals to popular prejudice are no less under a Democratic than under a Republican regime; in fact, they might well be more considerable, for a Democrat might not improbably think it necessary to display his loyalty to the 'American Ideal' in a more conspicuous if spasmodic manner than his more pro nouncedly imperialist rival."

Whoever is in and whoever is out, the Administration is likely to have an incurable case of "Americanismus," to be irredeemably American. It is not to be believed that a Democratic President would approve the alienation of the Philippines, no matter what the Democratic platform says. It is well that the Saturday Review should know that and that the Monroe Doctrine is a continuous national policy. Why, then, does this Saturday Reviewer think that Judge PARKER is less likely to be a consistent supporter of Monroeism than Mr. Roose-VELT? It makes no difference. Our purpose was to show that Americans have an appreciative friend that takes an interest in them, even if English newspaper readers do not. And if Judge PARKER is defeated he will be forgiven by this appreciative friend and classified as "a very able man." If elected he must be content with the rating of "mediocrity."

Russia's Provocation to England.

We mooted yesterday the question whether it is possible to reconcile with international law Russia's assertion of a right to take vessels through the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles under the guise of merchantmen, and subsequently to transform them into warships for the purpose of policing the high seas and enforcing upon neutrals compliance with their obligations. We also pointed out how grave was the provocation given to Great Britain by the seizure of the British steamer Allenton on the charge that she was carrying to Japan a corgo of coal, which the St. Petersburg Government has arrogated authority to declare contraband of war. The accusation that another British steamer, the Malacca of the P. & O. Company, seized by a Russian cruiser, was carrying munitions of war for the Japanese Government had not been at that time denied. Her case, therefore, seemed to rest on a different footing from that of the Allenton. Now we learn from London newspapers that there is no foundation for the charge brought against the Malacca, and that the only munitions or goods in the nature of contraband on board of that vessel were consigned by the British Government to the Admiral commanding the British China squadron. Not until after the consignment had been left at Hong Kong was the vessel allowed

It seems to be impo the conclusion that the Russian steamers Smolensk and St. Petersburg were really warships, and consequently violated the Treaty of London, by which in 1871 search or capture neutral vessels on the If Mr. Sherhan had yielded to HILL's | high seas, they committed acts of piracy. If the first alternative be accepted, it follows that it is the duty of England, as a signatory of the Treaty of London. the suppression would have wrecked to call upon the Sultan ABDUL HAMID to Judge PARKER'S campaign before it left enforce the provisions of that treaty by preventing the passage of any more Russian vessels susceptible of conversion into warships through the Dardsnelles. As regards the vessels which already have been permitted to pass through the straits, it is optional with Japan whether or not she will consider the Sultan's connivance at their escape as a hostile act, constituting the entrance of a third Power into the war, and thus rendering the Anglo-Japanese Treaty immediately operative. If the other alternative be preferred, and it is acknowledged that the Smolensk and St. Petersburg are technically pirates, they should be treated as such, and the St. Petersburg Government would have no right to complain if the officers and crews were hanged

at the yardarm. It should be borne in mind that Russia occupies a different position with regard to the transforming of merchantmen into warships from that which might out a page upon American politics. He be taken by our own Government. Russia, by assenting to the Declaration of class of President who is likely to make it | Paris, is prohibited from issuing letters of marque. If American merchant vessels, on the other hand, happened to be as an illustration of the frictionless in the Black Sea on the outbreak of a product, but he doesn't think much of war to which our Government was a party, they could pass through the Dardanelles, and after emerging therefrom they could, by acquiring possession of letters of marque and reprisal, be converted lawfully into privateers, the officers and crews of which could not be charged with piracy. The creation of a so-called "volunteer" fleet by Russia would be a flagrant violation of the than Judge PARKER or ex-President Declaration of Paris, unless the members CLEVELAND." It has been the fashion to of that fleet were duly commissioned as warships before leaving a Russian port for foreign waters. The notion that a "volunteer" is at liberty to dissemble its assumption of a warlike character until it shall have passed the Dardanelles and then suddenly to produce its commission and uncover its armament

> The reasons assigned at St. Petersburg for the extraordinary performances of the Smolensk and the St. Petersburg in the Red Sea are not even plausible. We are told, first, that the ammunition shipped on the Malacca, although it may have been consigned primarily the expense. It says that the city shall to Hong Kong, was intended for ultimate pay one-fourth, and the city would surely

but Russia was not at liberty to go behind the consignment. The principle has been long established, and it was decisively confirmed during the South African War, when a German steamer was seized by a British warship on the plea that the contraband goods which it was carrying, though consigned to Portuguese merchants at the neutral port of Lorenzo Marquez, would eventually find their way to the Transvaal. The vessel and its cargo were surrendered by Great Britain in compliance with the prompt remonstrance of Germany. It is asserted, in the second place, that the purpose of checking the flow of munitions of war from Europe to Japan was to bring about the detachment of some Japanese cruisers from the force now operating in Far Eastern waters. Nobody in his senses could imagine that Japan, with a view to policing the Red Sea, would at this critical conjuncture weaken the fleet under Admiral Togo or her Vladivostok squadron.

The motives put forward in telegrams from Russia for the acts of the Smolensk and St. Petersburg being obviously delusive, we cannot but recognize some ground for the suggestion that, in their desperation, the Czar's advisers are deliberately trying to provoke England to take an active part in the war, in order that they, on their part, may secure allies, or find an excuse for withdrawing from the contest by acquiescing in a reference of the Manchurian and Corean question to a Peace Congress.

Imperial Yacht Racing.

Suppose that a race for the America's Cup was in progress off Sandy Hook and that the challenger was the property of some German potentate. Suppose that the starting point had been selected at or near the Scotland lightship and the outer mark had been located fifteen miles eastward. Suppose that the American yacht led all the way to that outer mark and turned it a mile ahead of her German competitor; that, after she had finished, her skipper was informed that he had turned the wrong mark, and that a new mark, a mile nearer to the finish, had been chosen after the race had started.

What would all the German newspa-

pers say about Yankee pigs? Something of that same sort was done in the case of which Commodore PLANT, owner of the swift racing schooner Ingomar, has just complained to the Larchmont Yacht Club. When his yacht finished first in a race off Cuxhaven her skipper was informed that the course had been changed after the start and that he had rounded the wrong lightship, sailing a mile and a half further to windward and back than he needed to.

The Yankee pigs have won many yacht races and have had much experience in conducting contests of this kind; but here is one thing which they have not yet learned. By the simple process of changing the course after one contestant has secured a commanding lead the race can be handed over to another. The regatta committee of the Larchmont Yacht Club will ponder deeply over this matter. The club has long enjoyed the reputation of handling regattas better than any other club in this country; but we are quite sure that it can learn something from Commodore PLANT'S report.

Another interesting feature of German yacht racing, disclosed in this same report, is the position occupied by the civil war." Emperor on the high seas of sport. The Emperor does not get out of any one's way. He may give up a race, but he does not put down his helm. The foolish rules of the road, not taking War Lords into account, declare that when two vessels beating to windward are approaching each other on opposite tacks the one holding the port tack shall give way to the other. But when the Ingomar on the starboard tack came together with the Meteor on the port tack the latter would not go about.

Now, the American yacht would have been justified by the customs of yacht racing in running into the German yacht and perhaps sinking her. But the German Emperor was on board his vessel, and Commodore PLANT naturally declined the responsibility of rudely hurling the sacred person of the monarch into the deep, and possibly even sacrificing his very existence to his faith in his own divine right to overrule even the laws of the road. So Mr. PLANT tacked under the overshadowing lee of the Emperor, but hoisted a flag indicating that he protested at being forced to do so. Thereupon the German Emperor, having satisfied himself of his supremacy on the high seas by showing himself to be above the laws of the domain, gave up the race. What was a mere race compared with the right to defy allcomers on either tack?

This was indeed an interesting and instructive incident. It was charged with dignity, impressiveness, and even subtlety. But if Mr. PLANT had been a true Yankee pig he would have given his Imperial Majesty a ducking and a lesson in yacht racing.

The Governor at the Grade Crossing.

The New York Herald spoils the moral effect of its efforts against the steam railroad crossings at grade in this city by persistently placing the blame for the delay in abolishing them upon the wrong shoulders. Thus on Tuesday it said editorially:

" Legally, perhaps, the greater blame rests upon the [Railroad] Commissioners, for it is they who in any event after hearing must determine what alterations and changes, if any, must be made. Morally the greater blame for the existence of these death traps within the city limits rests upon the municipal uthorities, since it is the people of New York city who are mainly menaced by them. Excuses that one party or the other has not money is hand to meet the cost are mere rot. The preliminary hear ings and proceedings take much time before the money is needed, and, moreover, the law provides for the apportionment and final adjustment of the cost and how it shall be met."

Precisely. The law provides for the apportionment of the cost of the work. It says that the railroad companies shall pay one-half, and the companies are ready and willing to pay their share of defeat of ROOSEVELT and the election of transference to Japan. That may be; stand ready to plank down the cash. It

also says the State shall pay one-fourth of the cost, but Governor Openia says no. The Ex-President's Satisfaction With the

Repeatedly, by his official actions, he has declared that the Commo shall not participate in expenditures for improvements of this kind. He has used his executive power to delay and hinder grade crossing work recommended by the Railroad Commission and sanctioned by the authorities of the municipalities affected. For the past two years he has vetoed or pared down practically every item in the appropriation bill for track elevation or depression throughout the State.

The deadly effect of his veto lies in the fact that while the railroad companies and the municipalities can be compelled to pay their share of the expenses of grade crossing improvements, the State cannot. The only way the money can be obtained is through appropriations by the Legislature. And when these appropriations are repeatedly vetoed by the Governor ordinary business prudence dictates that no work be undertaken until the State's portion of the cash necessary is in sight.

Labor and the President.

Mr. HENRY HERSKOVITS, a comrade in arms in the crowded hour with the Hon. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, was a member of a committee which called upon the President of the United States on Tuesday to present a petition. The petition dealt with the disturbed conditions that now exist in certain parts of the State of Colorado. Mr. HERSKOVITS, on leaving the presence of his distinguished host, delivered himself of this astute communication:

" Of course, the President in considering the situation in Colorado has got to keep within the bounds of law in any action which he may take. He probably cannot do what he would like to do, but we are satisfied that he is deeply interested in the situation and will do everything he can do properly

Does Mr. HERSKOVITS mean that the President of the United States would like to do something that the laws of the country restrain him from doing to settle the labor troubles in Colorado? That would mean that the President considered the laws insufficient, too mild and useless. Is it the fact that the Hon. THEODORE ROOSEVELT is dissatisfied with the powers placed at his disposal by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States? Mr. HERS-KOVITS must be mistaken. His comrade in arms cannot be dissatisfied with the laws as they now stand. They were sufficient and ample to meet the political exigencies of 1902. They have not changed materially since.

Even comrades in arms should exercise care in painting for the public a picture of the attitude of the President of the United States.

The Anglo-French treaty has not been ratified and cannot be until the meeting of the French Chamber in November. A recent newspaper item which seemed to imply that the treaty was complete referred to an understanding between England and Newfoundland with reference to the attitude of the Newfoundland Governmen toward the French fishermen. It is thought that a compromise has been reached which will be acceptable to the French Govern-

To-day is the anniversary of the first battle of Bull Run. It was fought fortythree years ago and has been described by high military authority as "one of the best planned and worst fought battles of the

The plan of the War Department to esablish the great battlefields of the war as parks under Federal control has already been adopted at Gettysburg, Chickamauga, Shiloh, Mission Ridge and Vicksburg, but the battlefield of Bull Run remains unmarked by monument or tablet. SICKLES, who has been going over the field as a representative of New York State to report upon the feasibility of erecting monments to commemorate the services of its soldiers, declares that it is inadvisable to place monuments on the territory covered by the struggle, because the land is not under the care of the National Government and such memorials might, and probably would, be subject to vandalism.

The Washington despatches say that the Government is viewing with equanimity the operations of the Russian cruisers in the Red Sea, because American vessels passing through that body of water and the Suez Canal, barring our warships and transports, have hardly averaged one a year for several years. However satisfactory the abstract fact of Government equanimity may be, there is room for doubt as to the satisfactory nature of the cause of the equanimity.

We find it impossible to withhold the expression of our cordial sympathy for those poor, stricken investors in South African properties whose interests have been so completely wrecked by the labor shortage in the Transvast mines. Happily for the the stress is now in process of solution by the arrival of battalions and regiments of Chinese laborers.

To show the extent of the disastrous condition which has prevailed hitherto we quote from a recent report "the dividends paid by South African companies since the beginning of the year." We extract the following from the soul harrowing list:

"Anglo, 35 per cent.; Apex, 20 per cent.; Bonanas, 40 per cent.; Crown Deep, 30 per cent.; Crown Reef, 50 per cent.; De Beers Consolidated, preferred, 20 per cent.; deferred, 25 per cent.; Driefontein, 25 per cent.; Ferreira, 113½ per cent.; Geldenhul Deep, 35 per cent.; Henry Nourse, 40 per cent. Rand Mines 5s, 100 per cent.; Wemmer, 62½ per cent.; with various and sundry running from 10 to 26 per cent."

Notwithstanding the wail of misery put up by the mine proprietors, the output of gold from the Transvaal mines is already close to that of the paimiest days just before the war. And as for dividends, as we review the list we can only exclaim: "What, in the name of avarice, do these people want to make them happy?"

Not a Perfect Rhyme.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT! Is not this

Ablase on the White House porch."

I refer to the rhyme and rhythm-not the set NEW YORK, July 20. A Comparison. Love's an umbrella

"The Boy with a lighted torch

We borrow from Pate, Keeps off the showers Of Greed and of Hate. Then, to continue
The simile stern,
Many who take it

CLEVELAND TO DEMOCRATS.

Candidate and His Gold Telegram. From Collier's for July 23. Copyright, 1904, Collier's Weekly. If sometimes during the past week those most earnestly and prayerfully solicitous for the complete restoration of the emocratic party to health and sanity have felt depressed by certain convention incidents relating to

the money question, it is certainly now time

for them and for all who love true Democracy

calmly to survey the situation as it appears since the dust and swelter of convention controversy have passed away. Such a survey is full of congratulation and hope. In the first place, it creates the assurganization has been freed from the financia delusions that have made it weak and has entered upon a period of old time vigor and strength. This is too apparent for denial. No action of Democracy's representatives assembled in the late convention can be construed in any other way than as an a knowledgment of the establishment of the gold standard and a willing pledge to its maintenance. This condition should of itself

be sufficient to so fill our measure of satisfac

ion as to cause us to forget any fears or trep idation that may have vexed us during the

days just past. I do not overlook the fact that two clea and unimpeached verdicts of the people stand recorded in favor of the gold standard and that its perpetuity has been secured by Federal enactment; but I insist that, in refusing to indulge any further free silver o double standard vagaries, the convention did not, on account of existing conditions, merely make a virtue of necessity, but that it voiced, instead, an actual and wholesome change in sentiment among the rank and file of Democ cause for gratitude and congratulation of I want to go further than this, and to expres currences, apparently untoward, have worked together for Democracy's good, and that a happy outcome has been reached through leading wiser and more certain than the wit of man could have devised. Senator Tillman and I have occasionally differed but I hope he will take no offence if I applaud

and give hearty concurrence to his expression

of the belief that "Provide kindly hold on our affairs." belief that 'Providence has taken great satisfaction to those of us who have always been unyielding and insistent gold standard Democrats if we could have had a declaration in the platform committing on constant defence and maintenance of the increase in gold production, but on grounds of economic wisdom and national honor. As protestations of affection never fatigue, so those who supremely love a safe standard for our people's money cannot hear too often that the gold standard is immutably fixed. Never theless, as an original proposition, such platform assurance was not necessary either on sentimental grounds or to make gold standard conditions more certain. were as unchangeably settled as they could be-with or without platform declaration

It must be confessed, however, that for bidding portents were seen in the Democratic sky when a platform deliverance in tended to pass as a recognition and approval of the gold standard was rejected after dis-cussion in the platform committee, leaving no substituted expression of any kind in its place, and when, thereupon, a platform containing no reference to the gold standard was approved by the convention.

The trepidation and disappointment which immediately supervened among the masses of the expectant Democracy did not aris from the mere absence of any statement con-cerning the gold standard, but it represented of the confusion and misapprehension caused smong themselves and the immense advantage given to their political enemies by pro posing, in a fashion, to declare for the gold standard and after discussion refusing to

At this critical moment the sun appeare and scattered every evil portent. In this time of fear and gloom a leader came to the Democratic hosts. A quiet, able, reserved man had been selected as the Democracy's candidate for the Presidency. His sterling and constant adherence to party had bee so fully avouched that it was nearly suppose that no action of the organization would provoke his protest. And now, while the Demo cratio rank and file trembled and waited. the voice of this quiet, reserved and able man ing the roisterous hum of convention diplonacy. In tones of authority and leadership the message went forth:

I regard the gold standard as firmly and irr rocably established, and shall act accordingly if the action of the convention to-day shall be ratified by the people. As the platform is silent on the subject, my view should be made known to the convention: and if it is proved to be unsatisfactory to the majority. I request you to decline the nomi-nation for me at once, so that another may be nominated before adjournment. A. B. PARKER. Those Democrats who have been impatient

of the silence of their party's candidate ought to be satisfied with the effectiveness of his first utterance. It filled the blank in a dis-abled platform, it gave leadership to the cratic cause and rallied supporters by thousands and tens of thousands to the Demo-cratic standard. To these must be added another wonderful accomplishment to which this utterance gave opportunity. When in response to the message of its chosen candidate the convention proposed to give him assurance that the sentiments of the convention and the meaning of its platform were in accord with his expression, and in efforts to make his message a part of the platform, a vote on the passage of a resolution embody-ing these propositions disclosed the fact that out of a total vote of 965 only 191 could be the best, if not the only, opportunity offered during the continuance of the convention to demonstrate how overwhelmingly sound its members were in support of the gold standard: and its result cannot, I gratefully believe, be otherwise construed than as in-dicating the elimination of financial error as a disturbing influence in Democratic coun

The national Democracy enters upon the campaign, not in gloom and fear, but in hope the cause, and in so many directions in so

the cause, and in so many directions in so short a time and in so compact a form, as was done by our candidate when he sent his message to the St. Louis convention. He has reminded all who profess Democratic principles that they also have work to do if they, like him, would do the patriotic political duty the time demands.

Let the Democratic lines be steaded at every point, and let our splendid leadership be followed with genuine Democratic zeal and stubbornness.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

The Language Reformers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You seem to be, ex-officio president of the American Language Society, and what you say goes without saying. and ought to.

Now, when even slang "comes to stay," why not

We have no passive present participle—as for example: Active, "the girl is singing"; pessive, "the song is being sung," "getting sung," and so on in various and many circumlocutions. Why not say:

"The goods are sell'n."

Why not thus use a common pronunciation of the suffix "ing " as a passive form, and let the cir-cumlocutions go for what they are worth? We say now, indeed, "The stock is seiling well."
Towis that better than "The boy is given his books"?
NEW YORE, July 20. H. H. CARPENTER.

In the remarkable number of Harper's Magazin In the remarkable number of Harper's Magazine for August nearly every form of modern illustration is shown, color, tint, half-tone, pen and ink. As is the way of "midsummer numbers" there is a profusion of short stories a dozen or so. Mark Twain and W. L. Alden provide humorous pieces, Mr. T. A. Janvier tells about Château Gaillard, Sir Oliver Lodge, Mr. John Burroughs, Dr. J. Basett Moore and Major Martin Hume write popular articles in their special fields, and among the poets will be found Mr. Austin Dobson and Mr. E. S. Martin. Mr. Howells chats pleasantly about "useless information."

NEW PACTS ABOUT POLAR LANDS.

In regions still incompletely explored or lequately surveyed, such as the Arctic lands, it is necessary, from time to time, to revise our ideas as to the number and extent of the islands. These changes are the result both of new discoveries and of more exact surveys. Sometimes the changes amount to only a few square miles, as in the Splizbergen group within the past fifteen years, where the latest results are chiefly derived from new surveys of the hitherto little known islands, King Charles and Abel

Islands and the Swedish Foreland. Then again, the new computations of area differ widely from those made earlier as is the case with Franz Josef Land. Fifteen years ago the total area of these islands was computed to be about 19,150 square miles, but the later explorations of the British and Italian expeditions showed that some of the reported lands were mythical, the pioneer explorers having mistaken areas of heaped up sea ice for land masses and some of the lands were not nearly so large as they were supposed to be. area of the islands is, in fact, less than onehalf as great as was formerly supposed.

Dr. Hermann Wagner of Göttingen University has just published his new measurement of the islands, based upon the map of the Italian expedition He gives the total area at about 7,690 square miles.

The whole archipelago has been so carefully covered by the work of Jackson and the Duke of the Abruszi that perhaps very little will be heard for many years to come of this commercially valueless outpost of

We know so little of most of the islands north of our continent that no attempt to compute their area has been regarded as very satisfactory. But Capt. Sverdrup was able in the region of the Parry archipelago to outline all the coasts of some of these islands, to map the wholly unknown western coast of Ellesmere Land, and also to discover a number of new islands. The area of all these lands has just been computed by Dr. Wagner at 126,160 square miles, of which Ellesmere Land embraces 78,665 square miles. The islands are those that have long been designated on our maps as North Devon Coburg, North Kent, Graham, North Cornwall, and the newly discovered King Christian, Isachsen, Ellef-Ringnes, Amund-Ringnes and Heiburg Lands, with small islands near them. Including these islands at the eastern end of the American Arctic archipelago, the area of the entire archipelago is now roughly computed at 534,000 square miles.

The area of the Antarctic lands will, of course, be purely conjectural as long as the extent of continental Antarctica is un-The new issue of Die Berölkerung known. der Erde, however, quotes Dr. Wagner for the statement that the Antarctic area is probably pretty equally divided between land and water. We now know from the sledge journeys of Scott that Victoria Land is of great extent; and the explorations of Nordenskiöld have shown that Graham Land, which was represented on Larsen's map of 1895 as about 156,000 square mile n area, is much larger than that.

TURKEY'S DIPLOMATIC WAYS. Official Correspondence Shows How the Sultan Can Dodge an Issue.

WASHINGTON, July 20.- The State Department to-day made public correspond ence between Secretary of State Hay and Minister Leishman, at Constantinople, which throws a few sidelights on Turkish diplomacy and the policy that was pursued by the Sultan when President Roose velt's demands that American citizens be granted similar rights and privileges afforded the citizens of other countries were

presented to him. A letter written by Secretary Hay to Minister Leishman on Feb. 2, 1903, contained this: "The President is deeply in earnest in this matter, and while Mr. Leishman will approach the Sultan in the utmost spirit of friendship and good will, he will impress upon him the fixed desire and exation of the President that this country and its citizens be treated on the same terms as the most favored nation."

From the correspondence it appears that while Mr. Leishman did his best, he did not make remarkable progress in carrying out the President's desires. One of the reasons why he was not more successful is told in a letter written by him to Secretary Hay, in which he said:

"The Sultan very courteously accorded me an audience when I called to pay my re-

spects upon my return, but the interview was confined to complimentary remarks and a half hour's conversation on general matters, as without special arrangement any one but an Ambassador who ventured any one but an Ambassador who ventured to talk business would be sure to meet with a polite rebuff, and forever after find it a most difficult task to secure an audi-

ence."

The correspondence made public to-day covers a period of many months and it shows very clearly the methods of the Sublime Porte in delaying from day to day and from week to week all matters of importance on which no action is desired by the Turkish Government.

CITY NEEDS WATER QUICKLY. Civic Conference Quotes Figures to Prove

It-Asks Mayor to De Something. Representatives of several civic organizations held a series of conferences at the City Club on the water supply several weeks ago. The result was embodied in a letter sent yesterday to Mayor McClellan warning him that grave danger confronts the city because of lack of provision for an ade-

quate water supply.

while the average consumption in Manhattan and The Bronx is about 270,000,000 hattan and The Bronx is about 270,000,000 gallons a day, the supply in the dry seasons between 1880 and 1888 was not more than 250,000,000 gallons a day. Even with the completion of the Cornell Dam and Jerome Park reservoir, the yield, it is pointed out, will not exceed 270,000,000 gallons a day. It is urged therefore that additional water supplies be provided for.

The letter informs the Mayor that there are available sources for these new sup-

The letter contains statistics showing that

are available sources for these new sup-plies to the north and northwest of the Croton watershed and adds that the city has power to condemn water lands in a parts of the State except in Dutchess an Suffolk counties. The conferees urge to Board of Estimate through the Mayor adopt some of the recommendations last year's Commission on Addition Water Supply or "promptly to give mo Water Supply or "promptly to give most cogent reasons for rejecting these plans."

MEDICAL SOCIETY MERGER. some Onendaga Doctors Don't Like the New Law's Way.

The proposed consolidation of the New York State Medical Association and the Medical Society of the State of New York, which is to be carried out under a plan formulated by the Legislature at its last session, is opposed by some members of the Onondaga County Medical Association, and Willard A. Glenn of Syracuse appeared before Justice Fitzgerald yesterday in opposition to a motion for an order permitting it. Lawyer Glenn said that there was no actual opposition to consolidation, but that his clients believed that the merger should be carried out in accordance with the terms of the Ceneral Corporations law, by which each association would be wound up prior to the establishment of the new organization. Most of the doctors in the State are in favor of carrying out the consolidation as intended by the Legislature. formulated by the Legislature at its las

WILL CONDEMN FERRY LAND City Advised That It Doesn't Have to Pay

for Terminal Buildings. Although Dock Commissioner Featherson made another effort yesterday to delay the beginning of condemnation proceedings for the acquisition by the city of the land owned by the Staten Island Ferry Company at St. George, the Sinking Fund Commission would not reconsider the direction already given to the Corporation Counsel to start the proceedings. The company

> \$500,000. The commission considered also the pur chase of the five boats owned by the comchase of the five boats owned by the com-pany and of the ferry buildings at the Whitehall street and St. George terminals, the price asked by the company for the boats and buildings is \$605,000. Comp-troller Grout did not object to the valuations placed on the boats, but he insisted that the company wanted too much when it asked \$175,000 for the Whitehall street building and \$85,000 for the St. George asked \$175,000 for the Whitehall street building and \$86,000 for the St. George ferryhouse. Mr. Grout suggested that \$125,000 and \$75,500 would be fair prices. When this offer was declined Mr. Grout said that the city was under no obligation to buy buildings on property it either owned or had condemned. The matter was referred to Corporation Counsel Delany, who returned an opinion to the commission that the city was under no moral or legal obligation to buy the buildings.
>
> "I think that opinion is a very petty one." Alderman McCall declared, "and I don't think any court would uphold it."
>
> Mr. McCall insisted so strongly that the city was under a moral responsibility to purchase the buildings that the whole matter was ultimately referred back to

wanted \$525,000 for the land, but Comp-

troller Grout objected to paying more than

matter was ultimately referred back to Mr. Delany for advice as to whether the commission had any right to spend public money on the terminal buildings.

NO 'PHONE BY MANDAMUS. Justice Giegerich Says Indications Are it's Wanted for a Poolroom.

Supreme Court Justice Giegerich denied yesterday the application of James Steedman, who keeps a café at 20 Dey street, for a mandamus directing the New York Telephone Company to put a telephone on his premises and give him a regular exchange service.

Steedman says he is the lessee of the entire building. Capt. Burns raided the second floor of the building in May last, and found floor of the building in May last, and found there an alleged poolroom, said to be kept by the Levien family. Burns tore out the telephone, and Steedman has been trying ever since to persuade the telephone company to give him a regular service.

Police Commissioner McAdoo and Capt. Burns submitted affidavits to the telephone company in which they swear that they believe that Steedman's only object in wanting a telephone service is to enable him to supply Percy Levien, on the second floor, with racing news for the promotion of a poolroom.

olroom.
These affidavits were submitted to Justice

These affidavits were submitted to Justice Giegerich by the telephone company's first vice-president and general manager, U.N. Bethell, and on the strength of them Justice Giegerich denies Steedman's application, holding that the indications are that the telephone would be used for unlawful nurposes. wful purposes.
The New York and New Jersey Distrib

uting Company, which supplied race news by telephone until it was raided recently in the Park Row Building, has a similar application pending, which will be argued next week.

OPEN SHOP CASE TO ROOSEVELT The President May Be Called On to Settle Another Labor Row.

WASHINGTON, July 20 .- At the beginning of the political campaign President Roosevelt may find himself face to face with a repetition of the famous Miller case, which stirred the union printers in the Government Printing Office so deeply last year. The strike of union bricklayers on the new engineer school of application at Washington Barracks was talked over at a late meeting of the bricklayers' union last night, and as the men still hold out for the "closed shop" idea, the may ultimately be carried up to

Rosevelt.

The solitary offending non-union brick-layer, who happens to be a negro, was the only man at work on the building to-day, and he was guarded by a soldier. nd he was guarded by a soldier. Shortly after 10 o'clock a committee the strikers called on Capt. Sewell, the army engineer officer in charge of the building, and informed him of the meeting held last

and informed him of the instring head assigning he and the action taken by the brick-layers. Capt. Sewell replied that he accepted the situation, but declined to discuss the merits or demerits of the striks. This trikers declare that the color question does not figure in the present difficulty, but the engineer officers take a contrary view of the metter. TO PRESERVE HISTORIC CHURCH.

Fight Over Altering the Scene of Patrick

RICHMOND, Va., July 20 .- To prevent the alteration of St. John's Episcopal Church is the object of a strong minority of the congregation. The church was built more than 200 years ago, and in it Patrick Henry delivered his liberty or death speech.

The church is controlled in part by the The church is controlled in part by the City Council, and a majority of the congregation has asked that body for permission to change the form of the ancient house of worship. The Council committee on St. John's burying ground has reported an ordinance favoring the change and allowing the congregation to enlarge the house of worship. The ordinance has been approved by the Foard of Aldermen. The next move is to have the lower branch of the Council indorse the action of the Aldermen.

men.

From all accounts that is where the fight From all accounts that is where the fight will take place. There is some talk of an injunction to stop the proposed improvements, on the ground that the church belongs to the people of the whole country and that to disturb it will be to destroy one of the national landmarks.

SATOLLI COMING HERE TO-DAY. To Be Archbishop Farley's Guest-Then to Visit Newport.

Cardinal Satolli is expected to-day from Buffalo, where he has been the guest of Bishop Colton, former pastor of St. Stephen's church in this city. The Cardinal will be the guest of Archbishop Farley during the greater part of his stay in

He will go to Newport in the latter part He will go to Newport in the latter part of this week to be entertained by Miss Annie Leary, who is a warm friend of the Cardinal. He will also visit Bishop O'Connell of Portland, Me., former rector of the American College in Rome, and probable Coadjutor Bishop of Boston, with the right of succession at the death of Archbishop Williams of that see. The Cardinal is to sail for Rome on Aug. 6.

Archbishop Farley returned yesterday after ten days vacation among the Thousand Islands. He said that his rest had done him a lot of good.

done him a lot of good. How Frank Tilford Keeps His Birthday. Frank Tilford will celebrate his birthday to-morrow by giving 750 little girls of the Little Mothers' Aid Association a fresh air

trip. They will have a trolley ride to Coney Island and see the sights of Luna Park and a lunch will be served to them on the grounds. Everything possible will be done to give the children an enjoyable day. This treat is an addition to Mr. Tilford's usual Christmas dinner. A Mysterious Intimation.

From the Johnstown Daily Republican.
THE SUN says to-day that the visit of Nicholas Murray Butler to Mr. Roosevelt had no political significance. That can be told better after the Republican State convention. The presidency of Columbia University seems to have become